



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

Northern Region • 7600 N Mineral Drive, Suite 100 • Coeur D'Alene, ID 83815-7763
Phone: 208-762-2800 • Fax: 208-762-2819 • Email: northerninfo@idwr.idaho.gov • Web: idwr.idaho.gov

Governor Brad Little

Director Mathew Weaver

April 2, 2026

SANDPOINT ELKS GOLF COURSE
PO BOX 1000
PONDERAY, ID 83852

RE: Evidence of priority date for CFPRBA Claim 96-4263

Dear Claimant(s),

The Department of Water Resources has received your Clark Fork-Pend Oreille River Basin Adjudication (CFPRBA) water right claim. We are unable to recommend the priority date and quantity claimed for the following reasons.

The Notice of Claim to a Water Right identified with the number shown above was submitted for the use of water from Pend Oreille Lake for the irrigation of 35.3 acres with a claimed priority date of June 6, 1958. There was no evidence provided to support the claimed priority date. The statutory water right claim that your current claim is based upon is insufficient to serve as evidence of beneficial use as it was never proven up, nor was a field examination ever performed on the property. During my investigation of the claim, I acquired an aerial photo of the property, taken September 24, 1967, which includes the golf course and reflects potential irrigation of the claimed property. However, the date that water was first put to beneficial use to irrigate the land could not be adequately confirmed. As that aerial photo is the only evidence we have available that reflects irrigation of the claimed property, your claim must be recommended with a priority date of September 24, 1967.

If you have additional evidence that can be supplied to support the earlier priority date claimed, you may submit that to the Department, and we will revise our recommendation of the water right claim accordingly. Some examples of acceptable evidence may include irrigation system installation records, or a written affidavit from someone with firsthand knowledge describing the first beneficial use of the claimed water source for the purposes claimed (including the number of acres irrigated). **Please submit any evidence you may have within 30 days, referencing the corresponding claim number (96-4263) with all documents submitted.**

PLEASE NOTE: IDWR will recommend the Court decree this claim with a priority date of September 24, 1967, if no further evidence supporting the claimed priority date is submitted.

Additionally, we do not currently have evidence detailing the capacity of the water diversion system, and that must also be determined before the claim can be recommended to the Court. If you have records detailing the pump, pipe, and sprinkler sizes first installed at the golf course, that will be very helpful as evidence to support your claim. Depending on the extent of evidence submitted, IDWR staff may also need to schedule a field examination on site to confirm the diversion capacity of your water system.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact our office and we will be happy to help. I can be reached by phone during business hours at 208-762-2800 or by email at evan.roda@idwr.idaho.gov.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Evan W. Roda', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Evan W. Roda
Water Resources Supervisor
Northern Region